

THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

AMANDA MEYER,

Defendant.

CASE NO. CR20-0092-JCC-13

ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on the Government's unopposed Motion to Seal (Dkt. No. 975).

The First Amendment protects the public's right of access to criminal trials. *See, e.g., Globe Newspaper Co. v. Super. Ct. for Norfolk Cnty.*, 457 U.S. 596, 606 (1982). The public also has a common law right to inspect and copy public records, including those from judicial proceedings. *See Nixon v. Warner Commc'ns*, 435 U.S. 589, 597 (1978). But these rights are not absolute. They must yield when (1) sealing a document serves a compelling interest, (2) that is substantially likely to be harmed if the document is not sealed, and (3) there are no less restrictive alternatives for protecting the interest. *See United States v. Doe*, 870 F.3d 991, 998 (9th Cir. 2017).

The exhibit at issue (Dkt. No. 976) contains confidential medical information. Keeping it under seal serves a compelling interest that is likely to be harmed if it is not sealed, and no less

1 restrictive alternatives would protect the interest.

2 Accordingly, the Court finds good cause and the motion to seal (Dkt. No. 975) is
3 GRANTED. The Clerk is DIRECTED to maintain Docket Number 976 under seal.

4 DATED this 19th day of December 2022.

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8 John C. Coughenour
9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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